'MIHARA --

Client/Matter: 009523-0306805

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment the priority claim is recited. Claims 1-3 and 8-20 have been canceled, claims 6-7 have been amended, and new claims 21-39 have been added.

New claims 21-39 correspond to the Group I(rl) listed in the First Restriction Requirement in an office action dated March 14, 2003 in the parent application (09/741,000), and correspond to claims 21-23, 32-37, 39, 40, 42/21, 42/32-36, 43/21, and 43/32-36, 38, 43/27-31.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

HENRY J. DALEY

Reg. No. 42459

Tel. No. (202) 775-9832

Fax No. 202 833-8491

Date: December 22, 2003

P.O. Box 10500 McLean, VA 22102

(703) 905-2000